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TRANSMITTAL SLIP	DATE 12 May Hqs
TO: DCI/DDCI Executive Staff	
ROOM NO. 6E2914	BUILDING Hqs

REMARKS:

Attn:

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FROM: PAO

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FORM NO. 1 FEB 56 241 REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. (47)

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
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To 14: Please coordinate an appropriate response with #17.

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Executive Secretary
8 May 1986
Date

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Institute of Human Relations
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New York, New York 10022
212 751-4000

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April 28, 1986

2078X

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Bill,

Pursuant to our recent exchange of correspondence, I take the liberty of enclosing a draft proposal for convening of a White House Conference on Combatting International Terrorism.

This is submitted in general outline form in order to ascertain your interest in the validity of the idea. If it makes sense to you, I would be glad to develop a more detailed proposal based on my experiences as Vice-Chairman of the White House Conference on Children and Youth, on Aging, on Foreign Aid and Trade, on World Hunger and Refugees.

Those conferences generally contributed to a fundamental positive change in the attitudes of American leadership, and resulted in a number of cases in the adoption of new, far-reaching legislation supported by a broad American constituency.

My hope is that a White House Conference on Combatting International Terrorism might have similar constructive results, especially since this area is so critical to the future well-being of American and Western democracy as well as to international peace and civility.

I look forward to your early response.

With warmest good wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director, International Relations

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Proposal for the Convening of a White House Conference on Combatting International Terrorism

"Terrorism deeply troubles the American people. A Roper Poll conducted before the TWA 847 hijacking showed that 78 percent of all Americans consider terrorism to be one of the most serious problems facing the U.S. Government today, along with the deficit, strategic arms control and unemployment..."

That statement depicting the feelings of the American people toward the growing menace of international terrorism emerges as one of the conclusions of the "Public Report of the Vice President's Task Force on Combatting Terrorism" issued in February 1986 (p. 17). The report then adds:

"Terrorism deeply troubles the American people. They feel angry, victimized, vulnerable and helpless. At the same time, they want the United States Government to have a strong and consistent national anti-terrorist policy. While such a policy exists, the Task Force believes that better communication is necessary to educate the public to our policy and to the ramifications of using force during terrorist attacks." (p. 21)

One of the significant recommendations of the Task Force calls for the launching of a "Public Education Effort" in these words:

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"Because of the lack of understanding and currently available information concerning our national program for combatting terrorism, a broad education effort should be undertaken to inform the American public about our policy and proposals as well as the many ramifications of the use of force against terrorism, including death of innocent people, destruction of property, alienation of allies and possible terrorist reprisals. The education effort should take the form of publications, such as this report, seminars and speaking opportunities by government officials." (p. 27).

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In keeping with the objectives of the Task Force recommendations, this paper proposes that one of the most effective means for achieving widespread "Public Education" would be the convening of a White House Conference on Combatting International Terrorism. Based on other experiences with White House Conferences - on Children and Youth, on Aging, on the Family, on Foreign Aid and Trade - this mode (or some adaptation of it) provides a national mechanism for seeking to realize the following purposes:

A) A national forum for educating key leadership from major segments of American society about the facts, policies and programs of our Government in combatting international terrorism. Much of the basic information contained in the Vice President's Task Force Report on

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Combatting Terrorism is generally not known -- even to informed Americans. The use of that report, together with the documents issued by the Director of the Office for Counter-Terrorism and Emergency Planning of the State Department, the Justice Department, the CIA, the FBI, the FAA, and other appropriate U.S. agencies, in the preparations for the White House Conference and for its program discussions, could raise the consciousness of American public opinion molders and provide them with a firm grounding in the data that is available about the long-term problems of international terrorism and the concerted action that is required to combat it.

B) The national forum of a White House Conference might bring together key leadership of the major groups that compose American society -- business, labor, media, education, religious, racial, ethnic, civic, and other voluntary groups. This cross-sectional and interdisciplinary forum would be invited to consider and exchange views regarding the key themes and issues that are outlined in the Task Force Report; namely,

(1) The Growing Threat of Terrorism - the nature of terrorism; the geographic distribution of international terrorist incidents; U.S. casualties resulting from international terrorist incidents; domestic vulnerability; terrorist incidents in the United States.

(2) U.S. Policy and Response to Terrorists - current policy; managing terrorist incidents; coping with the threat;

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alleviating causes of terrorism; U.S. resources for combatting terrorism (law enforcement, prosecution of terrorists; better security for civil aviation and maritime activities; increased assistance to other governments; better, more timely intelligence); personal and physical security; Federal Agencies' roles in combatting terrorism; international cooperation; political, economic, and military considerations in determining responses.

(3) The Role of Congress in Combatting Terrorism - current legislation; pending legislation; potential legislation.

(4) American public opinion - examining attitudes toward economic sanctions, military actions; role of U.S. government agencies in assuring security of citizens; role of U.S. citizens in advancing international cooperation with counterpart voluntary agencies abroad.

(5) Terrorism and the Media - Promoting increased cooperation between the Government and media in assuring timely, factual information; examining journalistic guidelines to protect lives and national security during a terrorist situation.

(6) Task Force Conclusions and Recommendations - national policy and program recommendations; policy criteria for response to terrorists; a proposed new National Security Council

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position; American personnel requirements in high-threat areas; international cooperation through additional international agreements; close extradition loop-holes; impose sanctions against Vienna Convention on Violators; evaluate and strengthen airport and port security; intelligence recommendations for consolidated intelligence center of terrorism; increased collection of human intelligence; exchange of intelligence between governments; legislative recommendations; study of the relationship between terrorism and the domestic and international legal systems; communications recommendations for support program for hostage families; launching a public education effort; and working with the media.

C) A White House Conference will inevitably bring together a diverse group of citizens of varying political and ideological views, but with effective, skillful conference leadership that need not preclude the genuine possibility of developing a national consciousness - and even a concensus - for support of a strong, reasonable government policy and program for combatting the epidemic of international terrorism.

This writer's experience with White House Conferences on Children and Youth, Aging, Foreign Aid and Trade, World Hunger and Refugees demonstrated that such forums can help forge broad and powerful national constituencies that back critically-needed legislation, funding, and public opinion support for necessary political action.

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As was the case with other successful White House Conferences, a dramatic by-product could be the formation of Governors' and Mayors' committees. These provide local instrumentalities that enlarge the involvement of community leadership for implementing on a long-term basis the findings and recommendations that are crystallized at the White House Conference and its various workshops.

Given the magnitude of the threat of international terrorism to American and Western democratic values and institutions, a White House Conference on Combatting International Terrorism may well be an idea whose time is now.

Submitted by
Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director
of International Relations
American Jewish Committee

April 28, 1986

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April 27, 1986

LIBYA'S QADDAFI - THE ELEVENTH PLAGUE
WINS RELIGION COMMENTARY
RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM* OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

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During the Passover seder ritual observed by the Jewish people last week, there is a moving symbolism recalling the Ten Plagues inflicted on Pharaoh and his Egyptian followers. As the plagues are recited, each seder participant removes ten drops of wine from the cups. Why is that?

The ancient Rabbis explained that we celebrate our ancestors' liberation from slavery and oppression, but we do not gloat over our enemies, the Egyptians, who drowned in the Red Sea. They are also God's children, the Rabbis declared. So we celebrate with less than a full heart, with less than a full cup of wine.

No American -- Jew or Christian -- will gloat over the death of innocent people who perished as a result of America's attack on Libya's Qaddafi and his terrorist bases. But, as all the polls demonstrate, the majority of the American people are not so soft-minded nor morally blind that they can't make distinctions between aggressors and victims.

Some of the media treatment and several European reactions would suggest that poor Qaddafi is an innocent victim of unprovoked American aggression. How quickly have they forgotten the Qaddafi-inspired massacre of innocents at the Rome and Vienna airports, the Achille Lauro and TWA hijacking.

President Reagan's bold and courageous decision was not aggression. It was a justified reprisal for years of state-sponsored terrorism and criminal murders by Qaddafi, one of the chief architects of international terrorism.

America's action is a statement that there is law and there is accountability, and no one is exempt, including Qaddafi and his terrorist gangs.

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*Rabbi Tanenbaum, who is director of the international relations department of the American Jewish Committee, presents a weekly religion commentary over WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System.

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Sarasota Herald-Tribune MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1986

Rabbi Backs Libya Raid, Blasts Media 'Overkill'

By JON DIETZ
Staff Writer

The national news media has made Libya appear a victim rather than a perpetrator of terrorism by its recent coverage of the U.S. air raid on Tripoli and Benghazi, a nationally known rabbi said Sunday night.

Tanenbaum

Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of international relations of the American Jewish Committee, said: "Suddenly the victim has become the victimizer. Many of my liberal friends have asked me, 'Why was there such overkill?' The media showed pictures of people in hospital beds and kept mentioning Khadafy's child."

Libya's state-controlled media have reported that Col. Moammar Khadafy's 15-month-old adopted daughter died in the April 14 U.S. attack.

Tanenbaum spoke to a large crowd at Temple Beth Sholom-Conservative in Sarasota on the subject of international terrorism. Tanenbaum served as a consultant to the NBC-TV miniseries "Holocaust" and was a consultant for another television miniseries, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Tanenbaum said the media, after first praising the air raid on Libya, began blaming Israel for creating conditions that fostered international terrorism.

"The media says the 'root cause' of terrorism is the Palestinian problem," Tanenbaum said. "But in 1985 most of the 926 terrorist attacks worldwide originated in Latin America against U.S. personnel and businesses.

"If Israel were to disappear and become a Palestinian state, Armenians would still slaughter Turks, Serbs would kill Croatians, and so on."

According to Tanenbaum, an American diplomat or installation was attacked every 17 days during 1985.

He said the centers of state-sponsored terrorism are Libya, Syria, Iraq and Iran. Shiite Moslems pose the greatest threat to the western democracies, he added. He said Shiites are intolerant of Christians, Jews and even other Moslems.

And the Shiite religion guarantees a place in heaven for any believer who dies in an attack on unbelievers, he said.

With the air raid on Libya, "We are approaching a period similar to the Middle Ages, when Crusaders invaded Islamic lands. This resulted in Moslems launching Jihads, or holy wars, against the west," Tanenbaum said.

Tanenbaum praised the raid as a necessary response to Khadafy's attacks on airline carriers and Americans on air bases and in European nightclubs.

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